You had better not attempt to make any collections in Springfield as many are in a course of paying. perhaps I will see you on Saturday

Hon. A. A. Sheldon
Springfield
Mass

PAID

6

=tain a ~~statement~~ that you will lecture respecting political action and after the lecture we can make the other arrangements publicly or privately as is best. By this arrangement you will have the Ears of many who would not come out to hear about a third party. When you arrive here you please call at first on some of the Congregational brethren and not tell them that you have had any particular correspondence with me. Wm H. Stoddard. J. P. Williston, or Stackweather will I think aid you. My Williston or ~~Stoddard~~. It is necessary that you should succumb a little ~~to their~~ prejudices enough at least to see those of "reputation" first as Paul did. If they will not act after a fair trial I will, and I have a few Brethren that will peddle votes if necessary

You will doubtless hear much storming about me, but do not attempt to defend me any further than your conscience makes you. The Whigs may well oppose me for I started the resolutions in the Convention at Springfield last winter & have indeed been the cause of all their trouble in this district They are very fearful of loosing Calhouns Election. I am going at them again soon; I can prove Calhoun either a "Sum Scull or a dishonest man" and when the time comes I will try them one pull

When you get here I will tell you that friends Childs Wife & myself are — — — — One lives a full of inconsistences

Shall be very happy to see you and can I think tell a little about matters that you wish to know

Yours for the Slave

Abel Brown Jr

do not make much noise.

Again. If a Democrat is nominated for Congress we shall have a very fair chance to elect him at the second trial as the party will I think adopt him as their candidate. I am rather disposed to think that Isaac Clark of this place is the man for Congress He has nobly left the Dem. party but is universally respected by them. If we donot take him Dr. Alden will perhaps be the man from the Whig ranks: I wish you would speak a word in the ears of the Springfield friends concerning Clark. and see how they feel. We can I think defeat Calhoun if we run Clark & at the second trial secure his Election. One thing is certain the Dem. know that their only salvation is in putting up a man that the abolitionists will vote for. We must have our convention previous to the 15th of Sept. or we may be obliged to accept the nomination of the Dem. which is not good policy at this time. but if we can compell them to accept ours all is well; I have seen a number of men that voted for Wm B. Calhoun before that will forsake him now

I wish also to suggest one thought in reference to this place

You know that all the Ministers are about as good as open opponents to us. None will stir a peg. The Baptist here are just beginning and there is a disposition to oppose every thing that my humble self is forward in. My Exposé of Calhoun has also enraged the Whigs and just this time there is being made a general rally to push me over. I have therefore suggested to friend Clark to make all the arrangements for this place and let me be left out. I will do all I can privately and publicly in my own way. The notice for a public meeting will only con-

93

Abel Brown

Northampton, August 6th 1840.

Rev. A. A. Phelps

Dear Bro

I am indeed thrice glad that you are coming this way upon the errand you mention in your letter. I have just been collecting names for the purpose of calling a district convention. In your plan of arrangements you may as well leave out Hadley as that is an entire "hard cider" town and you will not get pay for ~~attempting~~ to make an effort. I will give you one or two names upon whom you can call as you go to Amherst And I am not certain as you will greatly aid our cause by going to Wil=braham Abel Bliss is not awake. has not as yet concluded what it is best to do, Is overwhelmed in farming at present. If you can get out a good meeting there you will perhaps get some of them right side up. I think our better way will be to get up the district convention immediately get a few good men from each town at the same, as we easily can, get them right and then send men into each town to lecture. I do not think that either of the men you mention will do for governor even if they will stand. Dr. Alden of Sudlow is worth three of either of them I think because he is awake and will work, & is not afraid. You will do well to call and see him as you pass from Wilbraham to this place. You may also see John Moody and Elias Frost & Elisha F Parsons. Mess. Frost & Moody I think will go strait. = Friend Clark & myself have about come to the conclusion that it is best to let the Gov. go this year and bend our strength upon the congressmen & Representatives, more of this when I see you. You may meet with some discouragements at Springfield but rest assured the thing will go. The third party men vote. they